



# Adjudicator Biographies



## Bands of America North Houston Regional Championship

**September 25, 2021 • Woodforest Bank Stadium • Shenandoah, TX**

**MUSIC PANEL** (*alphabetical by last name*)

### **Mike Back, Roswell, GA**

Mike Back retired at the end of the 2018 school year after completing 34 years as a music educator. He had served at Walton High School in Marietta, Georgia since 1985, where he was the Director of Bands and Fine Arts Department Chair.

Under Mr. Back's leadership, the band program at Walton received national recognition through performances at Bands of America Regional and Grand National competitions. The band is also a three-time participant in the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California. In 2010, the John Philip Sousa Foundation presented the Walton Band with the prestigious Sudler Shield, an international award recognizing marching bands of world class excellence. In 2011, the Walton Symphonic Band was selected to perform at the GMEA State In-Service Conference in Savannah, Georgia.

Mr. Back lives in Roswell, Georgia with his wife Andrea.

### **George Boulden, Richmond, KY \***

George R. Boulden holds the positions of Professor of Music and Associate Director of Bands at the University of Kentucky, where he serves as the conductor of the Symphony Band. Additionally, he teaches conducting, music technology, and supervises student teachers. In 2011, George was selected as the Kentucky Music Educators Association College/University "Teacher of the Year." In February of 2014, George received the "Outstanding Bandmaster Award" from the Psi Chapter of Phi Beta Mu, the international bandmasters fraternity. George is past president of the Kentucky Music Educators Association.

Active as an adjudicator for Music for All/Bands of America, Drum Corps International, and Drum Corps Japan, George has also served as a clinician and guest conductor throughout the United States, Canada, and Japan. He has presented lectures and clinics at the Midwest International Band & Orchestra Clinic, MENC National Convention, NBA National Conventions, CBDNA National Conventions, MFA/BOA Summer Symposiums, and Drum Corps Japan.

### **Matt McCready, Tulsa, OK**

Matt McCready is in his 16<sup>th</sup> year with Union Public Schools and eighth as Director of Fine Arts, having previously served as Union's Director of Bands. Under his leadership, over 90% of students in the district now participate in a Fine Arts Department class or activity. Union has been named "Best Community for Music Education" by the NAMM Foundation in both 2013 and 2017.

Under his direction, the Union Band saw exponential growth in student participation, while also receiving top rankings and ratings at numerous local, state, regional, and national events. During his tenure, The Renegade Regiment, Union's marching band, was a Bands of America (BOA) Grand Nationals Finalist twice and participated in the 2013 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Since then, Matt has been honored to help the band return to BOA Grand National Finals three more times, serving in the role of Program Supervisor. McCready maintains an active schedule around the country as a musician, clinician, conductor, and adjudicator.

McCready is currently working toward an Educational Leadership Doctoral Degree at Oklahoma State University in Tulsa. He is a graduate of the University of Kansas (KU) earning both bachelor's and master's degrees in Music Education. While attending KU, he was the assistant director of the men's and women's basketball bands during the 100<sup>th</sup> year of Kansas basketball and was selected to

be in the 1996 Walt Disney World All-American College Band. McCready is a native of Kansas City and is an avid Jayhawks fan as well as a die-hard Royals and Chiefs supporter. Matt is thankful for his beautiful and loving wife, Amy, who is also an administrator with Union Public Schools.

### **Greg Williams, Acworth, GA**

Mr. Williams earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in Music Education from Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Alabama. He was a member of the Spirit of Atlanta Drum and Bugle Corps and the Jacksonville State University Marching Southerners. He also served as drum major for both organizations.

Mr. Williams spent his professional career as a high school band director and Fine Arts department chair in the Cobb County School District, located in a suburb of Atlanta, Georgia. During his career, he received the National Band Association Citation of Excellence three times and was honored as Teacher of the Year twice. He served as Director of Bands at North Cobb High School in Kennesaw, Georgia for 20 years. The North Cobb Bands won many local and regional contests and were selected to perform at the GMEA in-service conference in 2006 and 2012. Mr. Williams was named the Acworth Citizen of the Year in 2016 for his many years of devotion and commitment to the community. He enjoys spending time with his family, playing golf, fishing, traveling, and judging high school bands. He and his wife of 35 years, Dr. Lisa Williams, reside in Acworth, Georgia.

### **VISUAL PANEL** *(alphabetical by last name)*

#### **Phil Madden, Portland, OR**

Phil Madden resides in Portland, Oregon and is a design architect specializing in aviation, military, and educational design. Phil has been an instructor and adjudicator for pageantry events for over forty years. In the past, he has served as the Chief Judge, World Class Administrator, General Effect, and Ensemble Coordinator for Winter Guard International (WGI). He was the adjunct Chief Judge with Bands of America and served for five years as the Visual Judging Coordinator for Drum Corps International. He is involved in teaching, planning, and writing programs for college and high school marching bands, drum and bugle corps, and winter guards.

Phil's pageantry resume includes initiating the winter guard program for James Logan High School and other winter programs including the Seattle Cascades, Seattle Buddhist Scouts, and the East Allegheny Visual Ensemble. He has served as the Visual Coordinator for the Capital Regiment, San Jose Raiders, Valley Fever, and Seattle Cascades drum corps.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Architecture with a minor in Studio Arts and History from the University of Pittsburgh and a Master of Architecture degree from Virginia Polytechnic and State University.

#### **Kevin Nix, Plano, TX**

Kevin Nix is a music educator, guard instructor, visual design coordinator, and adjudicator with over twenty-nine years of experience teaching in public schools. Mr. Nix received a Bachelor of Music Education degree in Trumpet Studies from the University of Oklahoma. In addition to his many years of service as a band director, he has served as a visual designer and consultant for numerous performing ensembles competing in Bands of America Regional and Grand National Championships, Winter Guard International, and various Division I drum corps. His collaborative efforts with many high school bands and color guards throughout the country have helped mentor programs reach higher standards and established him as one of the most respected designers of recent years. Kevin currently resides in Plano, Texas where he serves as visual coordinator for the Coppell High School Band program.

#### **Kristopher Quaale, North Richland Hills, TX**

Kristopher Quaale is a member of the sales and design team at Integrated Lifestyles, a Dallas-based custom audio/video integration company. Prior to working at Integrated Lifestyles, he spent 9 years as a band director at schools in the Leander, Plano, and Keller Independent School Districts. Mr. Quaale holds a Master of Music degree with a specialization in wind conducting from the University of North Texas, where he studied Eugene Corporon, Dennis Fisher, and Nicholas Williams. He also holds a Bachelor of Music

Education degree in instrumental music from Texas Christian University. He was involved with Drum Corps International (DCI) for eleven years, where he was on the visual staff for the seven-time world champion Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps. Before teaching for The Cavaliers, he was a marching member of the Santa Clara Vanguard Drum and Bugle Corps (2003) and The Cavaliers (2004-2006). Mr. Quaale is also active as a drill writer, clinician, and adjudicator in the United States and internationally.

#### **CHIEF JUDGE**

**George Boulden, Richmond, KY \***